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The Mystery of Good and Evil. This is a bitter and a sacrilegious letter, brought out by the frightful catastrophe of Wednesday; but we are not surprised at receiving it. Many expressions of a like character came to us at the time of

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canic eruption in Martinique: "To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIF: We read to-day of the fate of the school children out for a day of happiness. Is this then an instance of the iness and loving kindness of Gop-the most ered and malignant idol that was ever, and is now, sped? Hundreds of children out for an ent holiday, and He of whom we are told that He so loved the beings He had created that He gave up to death His only son for their salvation, per mits a thousand of them to die awful deaths for believing in Him.

"When will this terrible fraud end, and men be hences for the sake of being honest? " WILLIAM C. LANGDON.

" BROOKLYN, June 15."

The mystery of human existence, Mr. LANGDON, is insolvable by man. Whence comes evil, and why did it come under the government of the universe by a personal GoD described to us in reputed revelation as merciful and of exhaustless loving kindness? These are questions which have never been answered and they never will be answered, for they are unanswerable by man.

Calamities which have befallen men and communities have often been attributed to their wickedness and their unbelief. The death of TOM PAINE used to be described by religious writers as peculiarly horrible because of his infidelity. If the calamity of Wednesday had happened to a crowd of excursionists of evil character and evil lives the comment of the religious on it might have, and in many instances it would have, been that it was a judgment of GoD on people so flagrant in their sinfulness. But here was a party made up of men, women and children of a Sunday school, brought up in the nurture and admonition of the LORD, profound in their religious belief and assiduous in their religious practice, disciples of a Church peculiarly strong in its adherence to the trict raligious faith of the past. Was this a judgment of GoD?

The ways of GoD are past finding out, we are told by St. PAUL. They are inscrutable. But the ways of nature are and preventable. If a child ventures science can step in, ward off and prevent | protection against these dangers. the catastrophe. In our public schools crowded with children has been perfected a system of fire drill by which the children, from the littlest to the largest, are enabled to escape unharmed, in a few moments, from a fire in the building. If there was no such possible human precaution great numbers of them would always he liable to destruction.

look out for ourselves, that every precaution suggested by science and by experience must be used to prevent panio and save life in a crowd. We know that provided and taken on a steamboat loaded with passengers discipline, constant watchfulness and proper construction—and we know that they can be made successful in their employment, except in those rare instances where the cause of disaster seems as unpreventable as it is undiscoverable.

Mr. Langdon puts on God the responsibility for the General Slocum disaster. but actually the responsibility was altogether human. Is not God responsible for the laches of his creatures, and how can mercy and loving kindness in Him be reconciled with their suffering and death if they violate nature's laws?

That is a mystery, Mr. Langdon, and the world of civilization is no nearer to its solution to-day than was the first sav age in the form of man.

Cuba Under Palma and Under Wood. We are inclined to request the Cuban Government to refrain from publishing any more official reports. These documents may make interesting reading for the friends of Cuba, but they give quite sequently trade tends to aggregate more a setback to those who place an exalted and more. Between New York and estimate on the administration of Dr.

LEONARD WOOD. The reports of the Cuban Treasurer show that with practically the same revenue, and with no sacrifice of administrathre efficiency, the Cuban Government has accumulated a \$4,000,000 surplus in the same time in which Dr. Wood created a \$1,500,000 deficiency.

The Secretary of Public Works has recently issued a voluminous report covering the work of his department for Cuba's first fiscal year. We translate the following extracts from that report:

"The Budget of the Department of Engineers in the city of Havana for the year preceding the establishment of the Republic was \$1,000,000. Many streets in the outlying wards of the city were not swept at that time; some were swept once or twice a week; and only in the more central wards was there a dally sweeping. To-day, even in places as far away as Arroyo Naranjo, Arroyo Apolo, and Calvario, the streets are not left without sweeping for a single day; they are regularly sprinkled; the est is carefully attended to; new parks and are being constructed; and, in such im-

Cerro important work is being done in better man-

ner than ever before. Notwithstanding this, during the first year of he Republic to accomplish all that has been men loned, in repairing, cleaning, and ornamenting the streets of) Havana, we have expended \$600,000 less than was spent in the same work by the same department during the preceding year.

" The pay roll of the department is to-day \$12. 548.35 per month. At the time of the establishment of the Republic, it was \$28,771.08. A yearly economy of \$194,673 is thus effected in this department, not withstanding the extension and the improvement " Prior to Jan. 1, 1899, there were, in all the island

of Cuba, 159 miles of country roads. During the three years and five months of intervention 60 miles were added to this. Between May 20, 1902, and June 30, 1903, 49 miles were constructed, with 40 miles more in process of construction.

"Thirty-nine bridges of all classes were built furing the intervention. Twenty have been built during the period covered by this report (one year), and plans have been prepared for 25 more."

According to this statement, Cuba certainly seems to have surpassed the record of the officials of the intervention. For an infant Republic, her record thus far is phenomenal.

An Arrangement in Delegates.

The Sub-committee of the Republican National Committee can't praise enough the Coliseum, in which Uncle the awful destruction of life by the vol-JOE CANNON fears he may be thrown to the lions. "I don't believe a national convention was ever held in a better arranged hall," says Secretary Dover. Nor was a better arranged convention ever held in a hall.

"The hall is admirably arranged, cries our old silent friend, the Hon. NATHAN BAY SCOTT of West Virginia. "Everything is ready for the convention. It could be held to-morrow.'

It could have been held last week or last month. The speeches of the principal nominator and the seconders have been duly viséd by the subject of their eulogies. Settled is the very chronology of the applause with which these artless appreciations are to be received by the eager thousands. The platform was raised before the hall. Scarcely the smallest "property" remains to be adjusted. Scarcely a bannerman needs to be instructed in the minutiæ of his zation, if the awful catastrophe of wavings. Even the troches for tired throats are ready. The staging, the many to which the inhabitants of "business," the supernumeraries, the crowded centres of population will be dialogue have been attended to amply subjected hereafter. by the master of the show. Never has a great unsolicited spontaneous popular movement been rehearsed and managed so thoroughly.

The chairman of the Chicago committee predicts that "in future, national conventions will be held nowhere else" than in that noble hall. Too rash a prophecy. A national convention is practically obsolete already. There is nothing for this Chicago gathering to do except to select a candidate for Vice-President in case Mr. ROOSEVELT refuses to do so. A postal card canvass among the delegates could make that

The White House is now the national convention and convention hall.

The Concentration of Population and Its Perils.

The loss of more than a thousand human lives by the burning of the discoverable, determinable, foreseeable General Slocum on Wednesday was the most awful disaster which has ever in front of a locomotive it is crushed. happened in the harbor of New York. If people live on the sides of a volcano | It gives emphasis to the increasing danthey are liable to perish in its eruption, gers to life which are involved in the whether believers or unbelievers, sig- great and rapid growth of urban popunally righteous or flagrantly wicked. lation and to the necessity which has But here man and man's prudence and arisen for more drastic laws to compel

The tendency to the aggregation of population in cities has been and still is to deprive musicians and stage hands one of the most momentous incidents of and others of the sacred right to work the development of modern civilization. When the first census of the United States was taken in 1790 only a trifling part of the population of the country was in the towns-only 3.4 per cent. In 1850 it was still small relatively-only That is all we know, but we know that | 12.5 per cent.; but in 1900 it had increased thoroughly. We know that we must to 31.1 per cent. Now it is about onethird of the whole population.

Add to the urban population the inhabitants of the suburban areas, now increasing even more strikingly than all possible measures of safety should be those dwelling in the cities directly. The New York metropolitan area comprises, besides the counties of Westchester and of Long Island not included within the incorporated municipality, almost the entire area of Essex, Hudson and Bergen counties in New Jersey, with their cities, villages and scattered communities. All told, the population of this metropolitan area is now toward six millions, and apparently it was never increasing at so great a ratio as now, so that the probabilities are that in the course of comparatively few years it will be ten millions, an aggregate equivalent to about one-eighth of the whole popu-

> lation of the United States as it is now. The time is not distant when nearly the whole population of this country will be practically urban or suburban. The areas which are becoming suburban are extending rapidly by the great and increasing facilities of transportation. Villages once purely rural in their remoteness are now brought by trolleys into easy and rapid communication with the more populous towns, where con-Philadelphia there is now an almost continuous urban population, and so it is between Boston and Springfield. Long Island as far down as Babylon has come within the urban area of the Brooklyn borough, and eventually the whole island will be densely populated down to Montauk Point. Similarly the region to the north of the boroughs of Manhattan and The Bronx, as far up as Pough-

in the metropolitan area. The crowded centres are therefore becoming more densely crowded with the residents within them and those from the suburbs and from a distance. Here in as the highway around Rosin Hood's New York every line of transportation is barn, limpid as his own Wabash, Mr. packed with passengers at certain hours, and even at the midday hours, when there is some relief from the pressure, they are still crowded with residents and visitors invited out or hither by the increasing opportunities and temptations to trade. The Brooklyn Bridge is

keepsie on the North River and Bridge-

port on the Sound, is practically included

on the transportation lines over it at the hours when the travel is greatest. The Williamsburg Bridge will soon be crowded hardly less, and when other bridges across the East River are completed the

experience will be repeated on them. The new subway will be opened for travel at some time during the present year, but any relief from the present congestion afforded by it will be short lived, so great and rapid is the increase in the demand for interurban transportation. The Pennsylvania Railroad tunnel under the North River and Manhattan Island will multiply the tendency to congestion at this centre.

Manifestly, all this urbanizing of the population increases the dangers to life, and makes possible many repetitions of horrible slaughter like that of the thousand of the Sunday school party who went out gayly on Wednesday for an excursion. The great modern problem is urban government, and the most serious feature of it, is the protection of the many millions of the inhabitants of this country congregated in cities-now about twenty-six millions-and the many more millions in the suburbs and from a distance who tend thither for trade or for pleasure.

When such a catastrophe as that on the General Slocum happens it is awful in its magnitude. We search the past history of New York in vain to find a parallel to it; yet the deficiency in the conditions as concerning crowding and the provision of necessary safeguards of life was not unusual on that boat. Only recently it had passed the inspection of officers of the United States Government appointed for the purpose. No suspicion of its inadequacy in any respect had ever been entertained. Relatively to the run of the steamboats plying in these waters its reputation was good, deservedly better than that of many of them; yet a thousand excursionists were carried down in it to speedy and horrible death.

New and more rigid and more rigidly enforced scientific protection for crowds, whether on the water or on the land, is an imperative necessity of modern civili-Wednesday is not to be a type of

Poets, Help the Fiddlers! '

Just what view the Amalgamated Association of Topical Poets will take of the action of the theatrical managers who are employing orchestral performers from the American Musicians' Union to take the places of members of the Musical Protective Union it is not now possible to say. That the poets will view with alarm this movement on the part of the hitherto submissive and genally tractable wage payers in the amusement business is altogether probable.

When men become so dissatisfied with the natural conditions surrounding their occupation that they band together for the purpose of forcible resistance to something or some one, there is sure to be trouble. This is an axiom. These managers have accepted the natural conditions of their business for many years. They have not denied the right of the musician to nominate his own wages nor to decide just how much work he should do and how he should do it. They have taken the same position with regard to stage hands and sweepers and ushers and other persons whose offices are essential to the proper conduct of a show house.

But now it appears that these minions have banded themselves together to try at prices which the managers do not wish to pay. They have hired scab musicians, for be it understood that any musician who does not belong to the Musical Protective Union is in the eyes of that body a scab, no matter to what other union be belongs. The next step will be the employment of scab sweep ers and scab ushers. Even scab ticket sellers may be used. What an insult to the public, which is of course unwilling to pay its dollars to non-union boxoffice dignitaries!

The Amalgamated Association of Trade Poets, therefore, may be expected to view the entire proceedings with disapproval. It is only a question of time before the managers will turn upon the poets and ask them to accept lower terms or to work more hours, which means to turn out a greater number of topical verses a day. If the poets decline to accept the new terms, they will be turned off and scab poets employed

in their places. Theatrical managers are becoming altogether too arrogant. They will have to be put down by the stern hands of the bass drum and xylophone virtuosi. The poets will stand behind them in this fight. Victory is certain.

Altruism and Buttons.

Either from prejudice or a total inability to read the psychology of one of the most childlike and open-faced of statesmen, the Hon. SAMUEL G. BLYTHE, Washington correspondent of the World, does the Hon. CHARLES WARREN FAIR-BANKS a gross injustice in this despatch from Chicago:

" Senator CHARLES W. FAIRBANES, who he been firting with that nomination for several months, will be here on Friday. He will be visited by a number of the party leaders as soon as he ar rives, and be told that he must declare himself. No further evasion will be tolerated. If he say he wants the nomination he will be nominated If he quibbles as he has been quibbling since last January, when he first came forward as candidate for second place with ROOSEVELT, he will be told that the Republican party has no time for so spine less a statesman, and the attention of the leader will be turned in other directions."

If not to be a fretful porpentine, like CANNON, for instance, is to be "spineless, Mr. FAIRBANKS may well be content to be described as "spineia." Straight FAIRBANKS is as incapable of quibbling as a duck is of swimming. Fortunately, a Chicago despatch to THE SUN irradiates with the white light of truth the dignified attitude of the Senator:

" Although his silence on the subject of accepting the nomination has nettled some of the leading mant wards as Vedado, Jesus del Monte, and the scene of a terrible scramble for place | Republican politicians, it begins to look as

the nomination pretty much on his own terms, which are those of receiving the nomination un

It is true that while Mr. FAIRBANKS was in Delaware, Ohio, at the feet of his olma mater, the Hon. JOHN B. COCKRUM, a dear friend of his and chairman of the committee of arrangements for the Indiana delegation to Chicago, ordered 12,500 Fairbanks buttons for distribution at the convention. Mr. Cocksum also arranged that the Indiana delegates shall go in procession from their Chicago hotel to the convention, with Mr. FAIR-BANKS in the front back. But this is no ground for the illiberal judgment which we regret to find in an Indianapolis despatch in our own columns:

Republicans express the belief that a systematic effort to boom FAIRBANES has been arranged, and as Mr. Cockrum is at its head the belief is growing that Mr. FAIRBANES is cognizant of what is going on and that he is expecting to be nominated."

As the leading man in Indiana Mr. FAIRBANKS will naturally have a seat at the front of the procession; and it is necessary that he should be driven to the convention. He might be seriously injured or even trampled to death by the eager crowds. But he is sure to rebuke Mr. COCKRUM for the unauthorized issue of those buttons. Inside buttons are all right, but outside buttons have a look of prominence which must be painful to an unsolicited candidate. Still, the buttons will be interesting souvenirs. It is understood that they are not paid for by Mr. COCKRUM, but by a club of Indiana Republicans, among whose members are Governor DURBIN, the Hon. EDGAR WARD CRUMPACKER and the Hon. JAMES A. HEMENWAY.

Buttons or no buttons, the Fairbanks boom is instructive and impressive to the moralist and the sociologist. How ready Indiana is to dedicate him to the good of the party and the country! She resigns herself to lose him. She is even cheerful about it. No vapor of popular enthusiasm, no wave of excitement surrounds that tall, and it may be easy, mark. Indiana gives him up. He gives himself up. Cannon gives up to him -if the convention allows. If Mr. FAIR-BANKS is nominated, a great moral triumph will be achieved. Score one for enlightened altruism.

The Work of the City's Servants.

After the grief and horror of the disaster to the Slocum, there is room for a mighty glow of pride in the work of the municipal departments in the face of the ghastly emergency.

Health Commissioner DARLINGTON and his Superintendent of Hospitals, Dr. STEWART, were on North Brother Island within an hour after the beaching of the Slocum. They worked with their coats off, and every stroke told for comfort and decency and kindness of heart.

Commissioner McADoo at the head of his blue coated, big hearted army of policemen truly represented New York when he issued his order that expense and red tape were to be forgotten; he set the example himself by calling on the Metropolitan Street Railway for help -which was, of course, given as soon as was asked.

It was characteristic of District Attorney JEROME'S prompt efficiency in his office that one of his assistants, with a professional expert in fire matters, should be on hand hours before the sun set on the appalling scene.

our coroners. But no one could deprecate the self-obliteration of Mr. BERRY and Mr. O'GORMAN, working day and night without rest and without glory for the saving of property.

No citizen of New York has reason to be ashamed of the record made by those to whom its government has been intrusted.

The ticket will not be " ROOSEVELT and LOU PAYNE "-both gentlemen happen to hail from the same State. Affection, esteem and political cooperation must take some other public form.

This question comes from a correspondent of whose patriotism we entertain no doubt:

tution of 'American' for 'United States' in the diplomatic service. But how about our moral right to the exclusive use of the term? "

Why, we are the Americans. A dozen countries or so use the word United States as a part of their names. Persons in foreign countries are sometimes a little confused on this account and do not at once connect the United States Embassy or Consulate with our country. That is why Secretary Hay directed that "American Embassy," "American Consular Agency," and so on, be the usage hereafter; and seals signs and record books are to be changed

accordingly. This is perfectly correct. We are Americans and our country is America to the whole civilized world. Mr. COLQUHOUN expresses the fact when he says in his latest book that there is no other people claiming the name Americans and no other country that may be spoken of as America.

Every nation in the Western world excepting ourselves has a distinct national name. Mexico and the Mexicans are known as such the world over, and so on throughout the list. No one would think of using America or Americans to designate any other land or people than our own. When we call ourselves Americans we

are strictly correct, and the whole world understands and approves

The Man Who Wears Women's Stockings. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: 1, of the male gender, have been wearing stockings—women's stockings, my wife calls them, although I buy them for myself—for more than a year, and I want to tell you sock legged chaps that you don't know what comfort is. Previously I had been wearing the regular article suspended by what the advertisement called garters, but found that they numbed the leg below the knee. One morning, falling to to death, I spied a pair of dazziers that were to do-duty for my wife, and appropriated them. (P. S. My wife is a little woman.) Well, I have never since that day quite gotten over the feeling that

I'd like to be a bike cop.

Oh, bliast how few men know thee. How few they are indeed who can be the coveted end-seat hog and court the light and breezes to tickle their calves. What a delight does stockings suggest to the cross-legged man who loves to fondle the ends of his trousers in the vicinity of his knee. ends of his trousers in the vicinity of his knee Why shouldn't stockings be worn! They can be gartered above the knee and always appear shapely. that socks present—one side to the good, and the other, sloppy weather. Am I alone! Siser. BatDozrost, Conn., June 14.

Origin of the Custom. By the time a man is ready For the laurel or the bay Grows Ico little anyway

the sphinx-like Senator from Indiana would get | RUMANIA NOT A BALKAN STATE.

It is the usual practice of geographers and cartographers to treat Rumania as one of the Balkan States. In the best man yet made of the Balkan peninsula, a map in four sheets, Rumania figures as a part of it. All the educated persons of the kingdom object to this inclusion of their country in the Balkans and base their protest not on sentimental but on scientific grounds. They say that neither in geological structure, in race, nor in political condition is Rumania a part of the Balkan Peninsula.

On March 13 last, King Charles I. presided over a meeting of the Rumanian Geographical Society at Bucharest. The society listened to a very able and forceful presentation by Mr. Alexander A. Sturdza of the scientific reasons why Rumania should no longer be included by geographers and cartographers in the Balkan Peninsula. The audience looked at maps, published in France and elsewhere, in which their country is still included under the general designation of "Turkey in Europe." It was decided to take steps to prevent as far as possible the inclusion of the country in future maps and atlases

as one of the Balkan States. The society has therefore sent a memorial to all geographical societies and to leading geographers and map houses in every part of the world, in which it requests attention to the purely scientific grounds upon which Rumania bases its claim to be a part of eastern Europe and not of the Balkan Peninsula. The memorial refers to many precedents, showing that it is not unusual to submit to geographical societies questions of general or merely scientific interest on which it is desirable that geographers should be in accord. It presents a French translation of Mr. Sturdza's address and asks that the question in its purely scientific aspects receive consideration from foreign geographical societies and cartographic institutes. The belief is expressed that this request will be favorably received and that "a legitimate and well founded desire of the Rumanian people will be gratified."

The argument and the array of scientific data which accompany the memorial are very detailed and comprehensive and only brief résumé need be given here.

From a geological and geographical point of view it is shown that the Balkan mountains existed long before the Carpathian ranges, which form the background of Rumania and dominate the Rumanian plains. The Balkans formerly were a part of the mountain system extending from the Crimea to the Caucasus but the Carpathians are a part of the orographic system of the Alps. The relief of the country and the nature of the soil also differentiate Rumania from the Balkan lands. The Rumanian hydrographic system is essentially different in character from that of the Balkans; and the formation of the Danube valley by the dislocation of the rocks at the Iron Gates, about the close of the Tertiary epoch, gave birth to a distinct line of geographic demarcation between Rumania and the Balkans. On the north side of the Danube are the low plains of Rumania, while on the south side are the higher terraces of Bulgaria.

The climatology of Rumania is under the influence of the Carpathians and the Danube, but is not affected in any way by the Balkan ranges. Wallachia, the southern part of the country, is a geographic unit, with an individuality well defined and perfectly distinct from Bulgaria and the other Balkan countries. From the large mass of facts adduced, it is argued that either the Danube itself should be regarded as the boundary between Rumania and the Balkans or this boundary should be fixed further south along the line of the most

northern of the Balkan ranges. The ethnological facts show that the primal basis of the Rumanian people, as far as history discloses, was Pelasgian-Iranian-Thracian, and later Roman and semblance between the Rumanians, on the one hand, and the Turks, the Bulgarians and the Servians on the other. The Turks are of Finnish-Mongolian origin, the Servians are southern Slavs, and the Bulgarians are Mongol Slavs. Excepting the Greeks and the Albanians, the Balkan peoples belong in their origin to the Mongol Asiatics, with whom the Rumanians have absolutely no point of ethnic contact. There is some admixture of the northern Slav in the Rumanian race, but not of the southern Slav, strongly Mongolized, which gave birth to the peo ples of the central Balkans.

Anthropological tables of measurements and other data are given to show the strik ing physical differences between the Rumanian and Balkan peoples which establish

a line of separation between them. Many facts are also given to show that the psychological tendencies and the mentality of the Rumanians strikingly differentiate them from the Balkan peoples. Intellectual culture and civilization are much further advanced in Rumania than in the Balkans, and in this respect the nation north of the Danube more nearly approaches the western nations of Europe The legislation of Rumania and the man ners and customs of its society are western The State is independent, has its own vitality and constitutes in the civilized world an element of order and peace, of progress and liberty. The nation says that its country was the highway of pagan Rome during the barbarian invasions, the highway of Christian Rome in the Moslem invasions and it believes that it will be the highway of European civilization in future genera

tions. It should be added that not all geographers have included Rumania among Balkan States. Dr. Philipson, one of the most authoritative writers on the Balkans, for example, calls Rumania a Danubiar State and differentiates it from the Balkan Peninsula to the south of the Danube

Texas Boycotters and a Public School Teacher TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I wish to direc your attention to a new and malignant outbr and cowardly forces of the boycott are directed against the very sources of our national greatness, our public school system. For the past week the street car service in Hous-

ion. Tex., has been crippled by striking employee. They refused to work because the company would not reinstate some of their number who had beer caught stealing, and by outrageous acts of violence they prevented other men from taking their places The police succeeded in making arrests only among innocent men whose offence was a disposition to work without the union collar; the riotous were left undisturbed.

The cars are now running, but only those who are stouthearted and impervious to insults dare ride at all points unionist pickets are stationed who demand the name, address and business of any one having the temerity to ride. Merchants are in timidated by having the bludgeon of boycott bran dished over their heads. A public school teacher whom I know, a lady o

advanced years, who has taught there for many years, has to walk a long distance from her home o the school and to town. Why does she do this when the cars are running, operated by non-strik ers? Because she has been warned that a ride or the cars will cost her her position, that unionism influence extends even to the School Board and that present regime of misrule walking GALVESTON, Tex., June 18.

> Roosevelt. The Strenuous upsets all rules, 'Tis plain to any comer, For Oyster Bay, as we observe,

THE UNREST OF ASIA.

Speculations as to the Effect of Japanese Success Upon England's Indian Empire. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your correspondent, "Orientalist," whose letters I always read with particular interest and

profit, if I understand his communication in to-day's Sun rightly, knocks away altogether the American and European stools on which Great Britain is trying just now to sit, and offers her instead an Oriental reed as Whatever may have been the destiny that Lord Beaconsfield tried to fashion for Eng-land, or whatever may be the policy of Mr.

Balfour or Lord Curzon, it has yet to be see whether the British people are prepared to adopt it as their own. So far there are n signs that they are; but that the gentlemen named are endeavoring to force it upon them is evident to every one who reads English papers on both sides of politics. As to the Indian papers, from one of which "Orientalist" quotes, and of which I see many can only discover in their enthusiasm for

Japan the hope that one day she may be in position to help them throw off the British yoke. Some of them indeed, do not hesitate

to say so openly.

I fail, therefore, to see what advantage would be to England to exchange a soli seat at the European board for a rickety stool in Asia. The British in India, the same as the French in Tonquin and Cochin China. can never be anything but a conquering sword, and what that is worth in the long run the history of the ages that are past sufficiently shows. If they try to hold it by any other means, they will sooner or later be invited to step out, for the events of the last twelve months have firmly planted in the Asiatic mind the sentiment which "Orientalist" in a previous letter attributed to the late Shere Ali Khan of Afghanistan, "the Orient for the Orientalis"—or, as proclaimed by the Asiatic League of Japan, China, and India, "Asia for the Asiatics." The Japanese Prince Konouye expressed it, "Asiatics, defend your sacred possessions."

I could, go further into this subject, and show from personal knowledge and reliable information that even in Asiatic Russia there are symptoms already apparent of separatist movements, and that but for the outbreak of the war with Japan the Russian diovernment might have found itself dealing before long with a Siberian and Caucasian secession. The fact is that this war has opened the floodgates—or, as a distinguished Russian recently put it: "The fire has been lighted and no one can tell how far it may spread." sword, and what that is worth in the long

The whole of Asia is perturbed and awak-The whole of Asia is perturbed and awak-ening to consciousness of its dignity and danger. Even the masses of India, of whom the Amrita Bazar Patrika, quoted by "Orien-talist," sometimes speaks as "human sheep," are exhibiting signs of unrest, and through their leaders demanding the restoration of the rights of municipal self-government wrested from them under Lord Curzon, and a larger share in the administration of their own country. own country.
It is the Japanese success over Russia, a European Power, that has fired them to this.
New York, June 16. F.

Political Writers With Ideas.

From the Houston Post. If a combination of circumstances should prevent the nomination of Judge Parker, the Democratic party may as well prepare for another candidacy of Grover Cleveland.

From the Philadelphia Record. Early in his Presidency Mr. Roosevelt made a tour of the country, delivering long speeches on the trusts at every town. Nowhere in these addresses can any specific statement nite remedy for them be discovered. He had much to say about good trusts and bad trusts, but he helped no one to draw the line between them. As his speeches showed that the President had no policy of his own, except to do the thing that seemed to be popular, Attorney-General Knox's remark that the President's policy regarding the trust is his own and a change in the Cabinet would not affect sounds like an unintentional sarcasm From the New Orleans Times-Democrat

with before the pendulum swings too far in the wrong direction. And the very fact that he is "a man of action." is a man "who does things," presses the issue hard upon his coun-From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Mr. Roosevelt is a live, palpitating, energetic issue, and one which the country must deal

The Parker barometer goes up or down ac-cording to the success of Hill in holding consultations with prominent Democrats. From the Charleston Post.

terference in the coal strike yet

From the Pueblo Chieftain cis has handled the world's fair and the treest possible tribute to his executive ability. and if Parker fails of a nomination on an early ballot, the inspiration of the magnificent exhibition at Forest Park is likely to have the same magic effect on the delegates for Francis that Bryan's speech at Chicago had on that convention for himself.

The Poisonous Leaf.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: For Ivy ur boiling water over "sweet fern" leaved and wash affected parts with that. In the absence of above use vinegar or sour butermlik. It is good and simple.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Derma gists now recommend bathing the parts with cam horated oil, which seems to have the desired effect toxin, thus relieving the skin of this irritating un pleasantness, and causes the swelling to subside NEWARE, N. J., June 15. THOMAS W. PASCALL.

Mr. Grout and the States Island Perry. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It might be of the City of New York, who is chiefly instrumental in holding up the Staten Island Ferry matter, to ensider that he alone would be morally locum should occur on the antiquated States Island boats.

He may save the city a few thousand dollars. but it may be at an awful cost. If he desires to retrench the city expenses let him cease making Proposition of political ends only STAPLETON, June 16. STATE

The Flags on the City Hall TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: If the victims of the Slocum had been princes or popes or politicians, I presume the flag on City Hall would have been at half-mast, something it was not when BROOKLYN, June 16.

The implied criticism is hasty and unjust. The flags on the City Hall and throughout the city, wherever under municipal control, were ordered at half-mast by Mayor McCleilan immediately upon his arrival at his office.

Where is the Third Party?

Where are the Pops of yesteryear? Where are the Pops we used to hear Ripping and anorting and howling and Chasing the Gold Bug off of the land? Where are the Pops who used to be The great Third Party of the Free, Which scared the other two so that They hardly knew where they were at? Where are the Pops of other days.

Whooping it up in their fresh green ways And filling the air with howis that made Where are the Pops who did not treat The wind they blew at the Demon Street, Who waved their whiskers as others wave The flag that marks a tyrant's grave! Where are the Pops who swore that gold

Turned loose to chase the peril out? Where are the Pops who did not care golden crown in Heaven to wear, ecause a silver diadem Was plenty good enough for them? Where are the Pops who used to stand For all the virtues of the land, And did not hesitate to pray

Was the wolf within the nation's fold.

And with a wild and woolly shout

Where are the Pops who used to be mmingled with Calamity Have they gone away from here? Where are the Pops of yesteryear WILLIAM J. LANDS

To gods of corn and oats and har?

JAPAN'S COMMERCE IN 1903.

New and Interesting Figures From the Government Records at Tokio. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Japan did a good foreign business in 1903. Both exports and imports show a material increase

over 1902. Compared with 1902, the sum-Exports, 1908.......289,502,422 Increase in imports 45,401,260 Total increase...... 78,803,617 Divide these figures by two and you have

the result in American dollars. Consequently Japan's foreign commerce, merchandise only, shows an increase of \$38,-301,806 in 1903 over 1902.

The chief exports were, stated in yen: Silk manufactures. Cotton manufactures opean umbrellas ... The large increases in exports of cotton

also the large export of matches. The cotton yarn exported goes to China and partly accounts for the falling off in the sale of American cotton manufactures in China. The chief imports were, in yen: Raw cotton

yarn, tea, and copper are noteworthy, as is

European paper
Machinery

and railway
 Locomotives and railway carriages.
 2,772,811

 Steamers.
 (16) 1,733,427

 Sugar.
 20,966,031

 Rice.
 51,060,272

 Petroleum.
 11,455,687

 Oil cake.
 10,7789,261

 Textiles.
 16,244,923

Dead Sea to Be Enlivened. From the London Dady News.

It is believed that before very long the Dead See will be exploited for industrial purposes. French engineers are at work on three different projects with this purpose in view. The level of the Dead Sea being more than 1,500 feet below that of the Mediterranean and the Red seas, it is thought that, by connecting either of these two seas by means of a canal with the Dead Sea, a stream of water rould flow with a velocity calculated to produce

some 25,000 horse-power.

There is no danger, it is asserted, of an over-flowing of the Dead Sea, for the waters there evapflowing of the Dead Sea, for the waters there evap-orate at so great a rate (6,000,000 tons a day) that the incoming waters would make no appreciable difference in the level. One project is to start the canal from the Bay of Acre, lead it southward past Mount Tabor and let it join at Baisan the waters of the Jordan. Another plan is to build the canal along the railway line from Jaffa to Jerusalem. But this would mean blasting a tunnel of some thirty-seven miles through the mountains of Old Judea. The third project, the cheapest, proposes to start at Akaba in the Red Sea and pass through the desert of Wedy-el-Jebel. Having obtained ver in this manner, it is thought many industria

Notes From the Granite State.

From the Boston Evening Record. GOOSE CORNER, N. H., June 15 .- Goose Corner people will be glad to know that the family of J. H. Horne (every member of which, except Mr., has been sick with measles) is much better.

SOUTH WOLFEBORO, N. H., June 18.—As proof of a grewing village, Edmund Gerry has opened a grocery and fruit store in the "old store." Ed has been in business a few weeks and is doing very well. He keeps a good line of goods, in addit to ice cream when the weather is suitable. WOLFEBORO, N. H., June 15 .- We hear a report that two of the girls at Brewster stum other lately to see who would sit up the longest.

A supply of good things was laid in, to tide over the breaks in the conversation, and the siege began. About 8:15 A. M. one of the girls fell asleep, and the fight was called off and they went to bed. CENTRE CONWAY, N. H., June 15 .- Lawrence

Philbrick and his father went fishing at South lately, and succeeded in bringing home

Discouraging State House Courting.

From the Montpeller Journal. For years and years the State House steps and for years and years the State House steps and lawn have been the Mecca toward which the lingering footsteps of the "two hearts that beat as one" variety have tended. Ethan Allen has for years held up his hand in token of silence as he has listened to the cooing of wingless doves that for years have ir spooning matches at the base of his Now all will be changed. The edict has gone forth that courting days on the State House steps must end. To those who heed the warning all will be well. But the one who disobeys may be awakened rudely from "love's young dream" by "brass buttons," and instead of the honey tones of his beloved he may hear a raucous voice say-ing: "56 and costs, and stand committed till the same is paid," when his case comes up in police court.

Ham and Gardens.

From the Cincinnati Enquirer. A novel thing about a new structure to be built for a bacon and ham packing firm in this city, will for a bacon and nam packing firm in this city, win be a large roof garden. There will be a lake, oval in shape, 25:30 feet in dimension, with fishes in it. In the centre of this lake will be a small electric fountain. The lake will be from 18 inches to 2 feet in depth. Besides the lake there will be regular grass plots, with trees planted in them and such lowers as thrive in this climate. The height of this feet. In the summer time the place will be covered over with awnings, and everything arranged so that it can be used by the members of the 2rm, their employees and the business men of that locality as a pleasure resort.

Oliver P. Morton's Homostoad for Sale. From the Cleveland Plate Dealer.

The O. P. Morton homestead at Centerville, Wayne county, Ind., is offered for sale. The present owner, Miss Martha Peele, values it at \$4,000. "I don't want to sell it," she says, "but I think I shall have to. How I do wish that some historical society or the State, would buy it and preserve it for history's sake. I could sell the place for conversion into town lots, but I don't want it to go that way. The memories that cling to it are dear." The fact is not generally known that indiana's war governor would have been known to fame as Oliver Throck-morton if his grandfather had not shortened the family name by knocking off the first syllable.

From the Inter Ocean. The Hearst League chanted a refrain to the tune

"Hearst, Hearst, Hearst, Here comes the bogey man. Se run, you little Hopkins men, He'll catch you if he can.

Hearst, Hearst, Hearst, You'd best lay low, you'll have no show: Defeat him if you can." The Hopkins marchers heard the chant and im-

"Hearst, Hearst, Hearst, Just watch his con, you Hopkins men, He'll skin you if he can.

Hearst, Hearst, Hearst, Here comes the bunco man; We'll lay him low, despite his dough, With any honest man."

Toll, toll, toll, Room for the children, verger dark,

In thy cathedral nave! Chant, chant, chant, Where lights and alters be

And lift their little forme to God,